

Re: opposition to bill HR 4026

I would like to take a moment to express my opposition to the above mentioned bill. Upon reading the contents of this bill, it appears that it is limited to locally oriented services, such as weather and traffic. I guess my problem with the bill is I don't understand why a pay service such as xm should not be allowed to provide these services for their larger markets. They are likely paying a separate company to provide these services to their paying customers. If this bill were passed, I would have to switch over to a local radio station and wait for them to play the traffic and weather, which typically only occurs every 40 minutes or so. This goes against what XM stands for. I am choosing to pay for a service so that I can listen to what I want to...when I want to. If I feel I need to find out the local traffic conditions...I can find those immediately, same with the weather locally. The traffic isnt even available in my home market yet but on a recent family vacation it came in very handy when trying to circumnavigate through a couple of larger cities which do carry this service. To reiterate, I would understand if they were breaking the law or monopolizing a market, but I don't believe that they are. People these days vote with their checkbooks, and if people want to have the convenience of sattelite radio, I seriously doubt that this bill would stop them. These services are just an added bonus to most of the people that I know have and use sattelite radio. All this would accomplish is wasting my time in trying to find out the weather or traffic reports when I feel that I need to check them.

Sincerely,

Weston Hayes